

332nd ELRS keeps Balad Airmen moving

By Senior Airman **Bryan Franks**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

The vehicles at Balad Air Base go through extreme conditions like the sand, heat and continuous use causing a need for more than usual maintenance on the vehicles.

The Airmen who maintain the workhorses of Balad are members of the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron.

There are two shops that service the vehicles here, the heavy equipment shop and the general-purpose shop.

The heavy equipment shop takes care of the large vehicles like fire trucks, cranes, runway sweepers and tow tractors, said Tech Sgt. Jason Smedley, 332nd ELRS fleet management. The general-purpose shop handles the smaller vehicles like pickups, gators, HMMWVs and ambulances.

Combined, the two shops maintain more than 450 Air Force vehicles, said Master Sgt. Richard Hoover, 332nd

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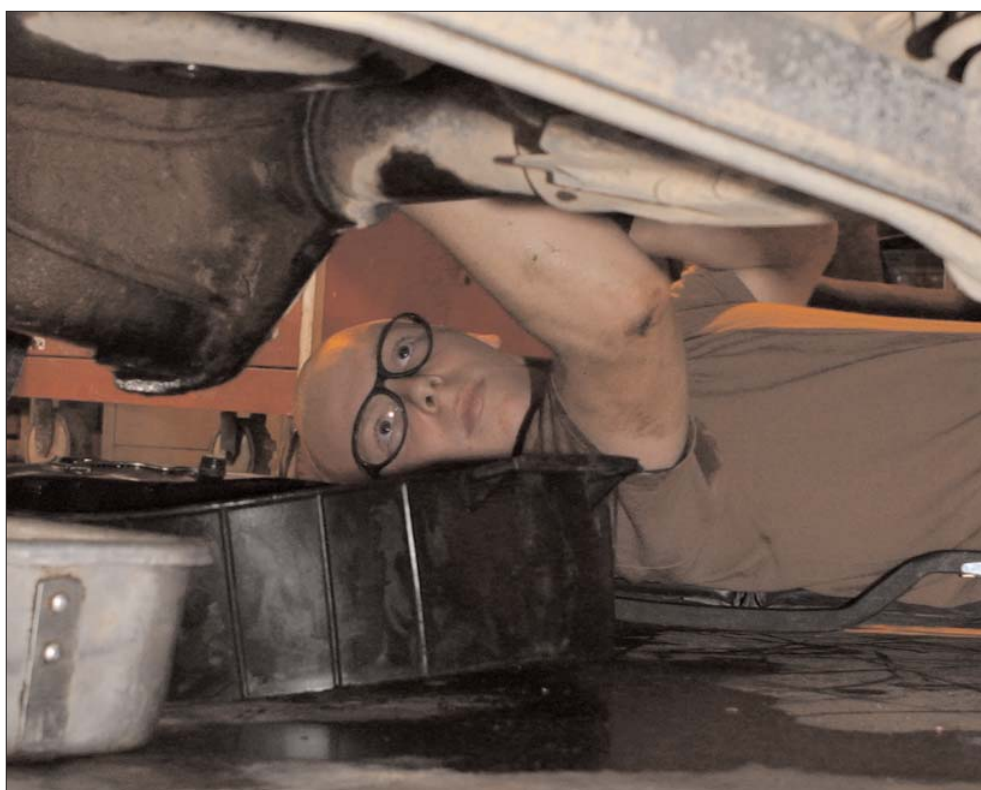


Photo by Senior Airman **Bryan Franks**

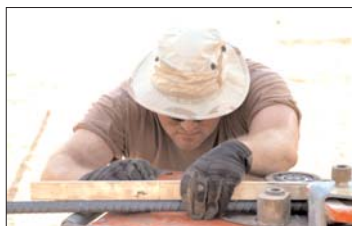
Senior Airman Brad Mahoney, 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, changes an inner axle seal Tuesday.

Cleaning up



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Shaping Balad



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Honoring fallen Marine



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Photos by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

Cleaning up

(Above) Captains Shaun Salyers (right) and Jasin Cooley, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, pick up trash around H-6. (Left) Airmen 1st Class Curtis Fluit (left), 721st Aircraft Maintenance Operations Group, and Dustin Keffer, 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, help clean up one of the base housing areas.

COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

As a service for Balad Airmen, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing operates the Commander's Action Line program. The line is a way for Balad Air Base members to get answers to questions or express concerns about life on the base. Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd AEW commander, gives action line queries his personal attention. The *Red Tail Flyer* will publish those items that are judged to be of general interest to the Balad Air Base population.

In addition to using the commander's action line, Balad Airmen are asked to remember their chain of command when dealing with problems and concerns. The Commander's Action Line can be reached via e-mail at 332cc.actionline@blab.centaf.af.mil. Those using the action line should include name, unit and phone number in case additional information is needed and for a timely response.

Brig. Gen. Frank Gorenc, 332nd AEW commander, discuss plans with Col. Sharon Gann (left), 732nd Detachment 2 commander, Chief Master Sgt. Michael Bosse, Det. 2, and Col. Don Palandech 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander.



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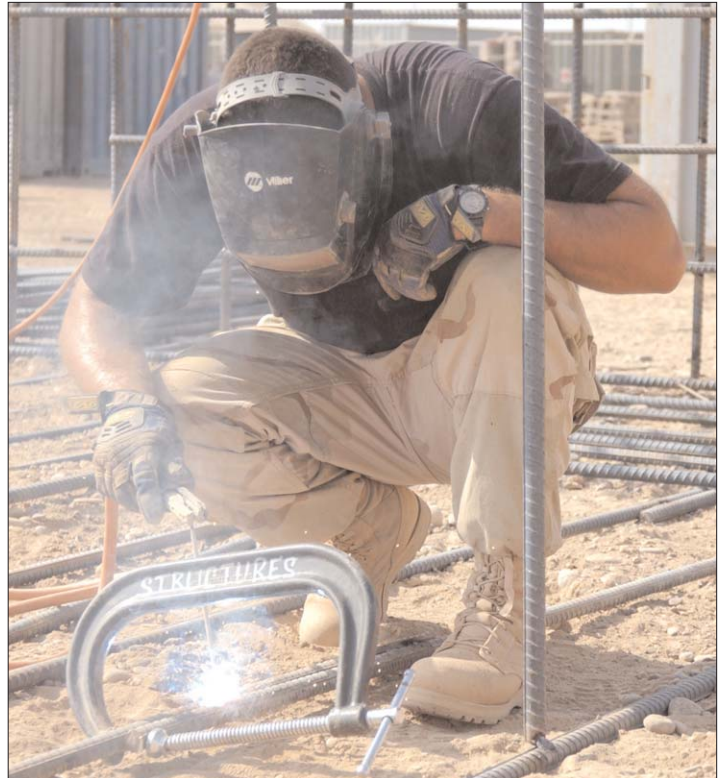
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<http://www.afnews.af.mil/iraq/baladarchive/current.pdf>



(Above left) Airman Michael Keller, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, measures a piece of rebar before cutting it Saturday. The rebar will be used to help support the cement foundation for a new communications tower. (Above right) Staff Sgt. Lance Lewis, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, welds rebar together that will be used for the concrete foundation.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

Shaping Balad

By Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore
332nd AEW Public Affairs

Heat and sweat do not slow down Airmen from the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron; when they have a job to do, it gets done.

"The 332nd ECES Airmen provide combat support for Air Force operations at Balad to establish, sustain and restore the base infrastructure," said Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Hannaford, 332nd ECES operations superintendent.

Members of the 332nd ECES structure shop achieve this mission by providing base facility and infrastructure maintenance, carpentry, welding and sheet metal skills, and airfield marking.

"While deployed, Airmen from our shop have to be very flexible," said Tech. Sgt. David Whitt, 332nd ECES structural craftsman. "We may be working on one type of job in the morning and by the afternoon we have moved onto something entirely different."

The 332nd ECES Airmen perform a variety of jobs varying from framing doors to supporting Army projects, Sergeant Hannaford said. "These Airmen constantly go above the expectations we have for them, they really apply 100 percent into every project they undertake, regardless of how many are thrown at them."

Despite the physical wear on the body from working in the heat all day, Airman Michael Keller, 332nd ECES structural apprentice, recognizes the fruits of his labor.

"I am able to see the base change daily because of the work we are doing," Airman Keller said. "That is a very rewarding experience."

Airmen, Soldiers travel to USS Roosevelt

By Tech. Sgt. **Pamela Anderson**
332nd AEW Public Affairs

An Air Force F-16 pilot and an Army ground liaison officer, both assigned to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, gave new meaning to the term "Joint Task Force" by traveling to the USS Theodore Roosevelt Oct. 5 and briefing U.S. Navy personnel on what to expect during their deployment to the Persian Gulf.

Capt. Bart Wilbanks, 332nd AEW weapons officer, and Army Sgt. 1st Class Patrick McCormack, 7th Ground Liaison Detachment, were two of 16 people tasked to indoctrinate the more than 5,000 Navy personnel on the carrier just arriving in the region.

"Sergeant Mack basically briefed them on what the Army is doing and I gave them a theater overview of what's going on in the air," Captain Wilbanks said.

Army Lt. Col. Shawn Ball, 7th GLD also assigned to the 332nd AEW, said the idea of providing the carrier with a seasoned-trained ground liaison officer for their indoctrination came about shortly after his arrival.

"We realized that they had no maneuver guys to be GLOs and were using (intelligence) officers," he said. "We also realized they were not trained to pull graphics and other Operation Iraqi Freedom mission specific information that we learned the hard way. They might as well have been a world away on the carrier and we wanted to help however we could."

A GLO is important because he acts as an intermediary between the ground commander and the pilots, relaying airpower requirements for ground combat operations, Colonel Ball said.

"Realizing the importance of the mission, the Combined Air Operations Center allowed us to send a very well-trained GLO, Sergeant McCormack, out to train his counterpart," he said, "and it was an added bonus for (Brig.) General (Frank) Gorenc (332nd AEW commander) to allow his director of weapons, Captain Wilbanks, to contribute as well. (He) is a veteran of a previous OIF rotation and has flown many combat missions over Iraq."

So a plan was put in motion to get the

aircraft carrier personnel up to speed on the specifics of what was happening in the area of responsibility. Arrangements were made for the two 332nd AEW personnel and CAOC members, including the master air attack planner, a combat operations officer and the OIF airspace manager, to travel to the USS Roosevelt to conduct training.

The results were positive and Navy personnel said it was a valuable education.

"(Sergeant McCormack) provided us with and, more importantly, taught us how to find the information critical to supporting troops on the ground," said Ensign Pete Walke, Carrier Airwing Eight mission planning support officer. "Without his visit, (we) would not be able to complete the mission we came here to do."

Beyond helping the mission, Captain Wilbanks believes the training is beneficial in another way.

"In this environment good things start to happen when we work together," he said. "The faster we break down the walls between the services, the sooner we can get this war over with."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

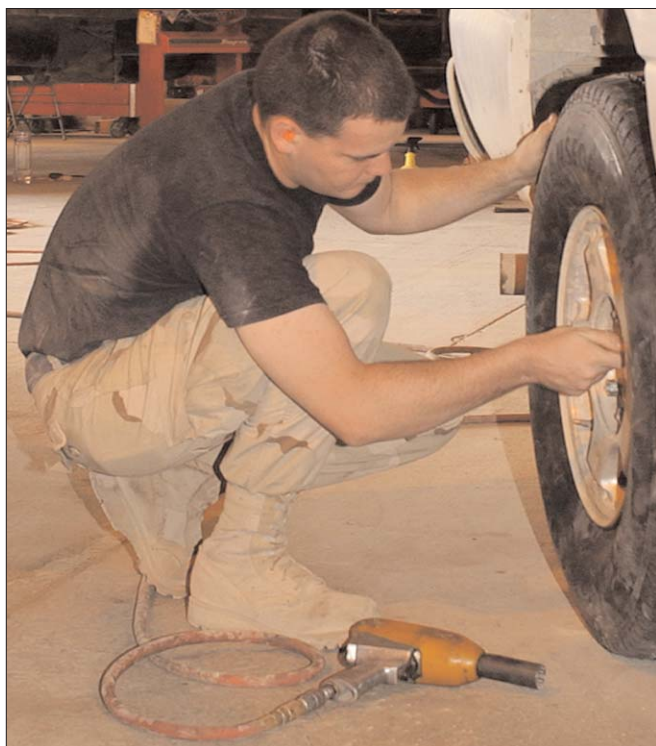
Keeping Airmen here connected

Senior Airman Abe Vlaanderen, 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron, connects fiber from the information transfer node to the tactical encryption equipment which provides the base secure network connectivity.



Photos by Senior Airman Bryan Franks

Staff Sergeant Darnell Roberts, 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, changes a tow truck hydraulic hose to fix a leak. Sergeant Roberts works at the heavy equipment shop here.



Airman 1st Class Nicholas Cawley, 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, changes a tire on a truck.

ELRS, from Page 1

ELRS NCOIC of vehicle management and analysis.

Twenty-three mechanics share the load between the two shops, 20 of whom work during the day and three who handle the flight-line equipment and on-call jobs that come in through the night, said Staff Sgt. Darnell Roberts 332nd ELRS heavy equipment mechanic.

These 332nd ELRS maintainers fix between 60 and 100 vehicles per week, Sergeant Roberts said. The main problems that vehicles come in with are clogged air filters from the sand, dead batteries and tire wear.

The extreme conditions in Balad cause these vehicles to need repair more often, Sergeant Hoover said. Back home they would get routine maintenance every six to 12 months but routine maintenance is performed at least three times a year because they're in constant use.

Tires wear faster in these conditions because they're driven in sand, gravel and on curbs all over Balad and outside the fence, Sergeant Smedley said. Batteries also have a shorter run life because the extreme heat causes the battery fluid to dry up.

At Balad the Air Force spends \$200,000 a month in parts alone to keep the fleet mission ready, Sergeant Hoover said. Last quarter the shops performed preventative maintenance and repairs on more than 372 vehicles.

"Our Airmen are doing an outstanding job," he said. "They really show commitment and pride in their work."

Clinic offers flu shots

By Majors **Anoop Attreya** and **Walter Matthews**
332nd Expeditionary Aeromedical Squadron

Flu vaccines will be offered at Town Hall Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon and from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Receiving a flu vaccine is the best way to prevent infection with the flu virus and the complications associated with it. Yearly vaccination against the flu is required because the flu virus changes every year.

On an average year in the U.S., influenza causes 36,000 deaths and more than 200,000 hospitalization.

The flu shot is an inactivated vaccine containing broken-up parts of killed influenza virus that is injected into the arm or shoulder. The shot contains no live or intact virus, so it cannot cause influenza. However, as with any vac-

cine, the body's resulting immune response can cause some mild flu-like symptoms, which are easily treated with over-the-counter acetaminophen or ibuprofen.

The following people should not be vaccinated without consulting a physician:

- ◆ People who have a severe allergy to chicken eggs.
- ◆ People who have previously had a severe reaction to an influenza vaccination.
- ◆ People who have a moderate or severe illness with a fever should wait to get vaccinated until their symptoms lessen.

For more information about influenza or the flu vaccine, call Public Health Office at 443-7304.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Thomas Hines

Airmen honor fallen Marine

Airmen gathered outside of the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron fire department here to pay their final respects to Marine Sgt. Brian Dunlap, Wednesday. Sergeant Dunlap was a firefighter assigned to the Marine Corps Reserve's 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, 4th Division, Los Alamitos, Calif. He was killed by an improvised explosive device while conducting operations against enemy forces in Taqaddum, Iraq, Sept. 24.

BALAD AIR BASE UNIFORM TIPS

When wearing the floppy hat it must hang naturally and will be worn squarely on the head. The brim will not be flipped, pinned or altered, but may be ironed. The strap will be worn secured tightly to the back the head, under the hat or under the chin for flight line operations. Guidelines on floppy hat wear can be found in 332 AEW 36-2903 section two [Dress and Personal Appearance Standards].



Right



Wrong

Small voices

Music plays role in defining a generation

By Chaplain (Maj.) Carl Wright
332nd AEW chaplain

"Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks ... but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind ... an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake ... a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a still small voice," according to I Kings 19:12-13.

I have noticed that different genres of music sung with loud voices can invoke memories of different wars that have occurred through out history.

Swing music by artists like the late Maj. Glenn Miller can bring thoughts of World War II to mind, so much so that "In the Mood" has become synonymous with that Great War. Thoughts of the Vietnam War can be produced by Motown sounds. Whether someone was a combatant or a protester, they were moved by the voices of Marvin Gaye, Smokey Robinson or Diana Ross and the Supremes.

I wonder what musical voice this war will be remembered through.

On a typical Friday night at Balad Air Base many voices can be heard blaring out karaoke songs at the Recreation Tent. The Airmen and Soldiers inside the tent sound like they are having a good time, but outside it is so loud you can hardly hear yourself think.

One Friday a friend came to me seeking sympathy.

"I can take the big generators," he said. "I can take the lack of privacy. I can take the 'cadillacs.'"

"You can even take the constant roar of F-16s overhead day

“ No matter how much sound we may use to fill our emptiness or loneliness, we need God's still small voice to see us through. My heart is always warmed when warriors stop by the chapel for a moment to be with the Lord.

”

- Chaplain (Maj.) Carl Wright
332nd AEW chaplain

and night," I added.

Yes, he agreed. "But I can't take that music."

I suggested perhaps it seems unbearable because it's loud, intrusive and often unintelligible. But my friend held his ground.

"No, it's just awful," he said. "We're in the wrong generation."

At last he hit upon it. This is not the war of middle-aged officers. This is a war of the present generation — as all wars are. We were listening to the voices and sounds of this war. And they will be long remembered when the present Airmen have grandchildren.

As a person of faith, I still can't help longing for the still small voice. No matter how much sound we may use to fill our emptiness or loneliness, we need God's still small voice to see us through. My heart is always warmed when warriors stop by the chapel for a moment to be with the Lord.

When this is all over, I fervently hope that the most significant sound by which the War in Iraq will be remembered is silence.

News Notes

◆ **The Air Force Clinic provides non-urgent care, immunizations, life skills and GYN services Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 443-7322.**

◆ **Free toiletries, stationary and uniform items are available to airmen basics through staff sergeants at the Airman's Attic located at the self help laundry in H-6 Monday and Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. and Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m.**

Balad AB Religious Schedule

Protestant - Traditional

Sundays
9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel, 10 a.m. Freedom Chapel, 5:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Protestant - Gospel

Sundays
11 a.m. - Sustainer Indoor Theater, 11:30 Freedom Chapel, 7 p.m. - Provider Chapel

Protestant- Praise and Worship

Sundays
9:30 a.m. Sustainer Indoor Theater, 6:30 p.m. Moral and Warfare Recreation Tent 29th SPT BN
Sundays and Wednesdays
7 p.m. Freedom Chapel

Protestant - Contemporary

Sundays
10 a.m. 299th FSB Tent Chapel, 11 a.m. Town Hall
Latter Day Saints

Sundays

1p.m. Provider Chapel, 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Liturgical- Protestant

Sundays

7:30 a.m. Hospital, 8 a.m. Provider Chapel
Samoan Congregational Service

Sundays

4 p.m. Provider Chapel

Roman Catholic Mass

Mondays through Fridays

7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Saturdays

5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (4:45 p.m. Reconciliation)

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel, 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel, 11 a.m. Provider Chapel, 3:30 p.m. "626" Chapel (for Special Ops personnel only)

Church of Christ

Sunday

2 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Islamic Prayer

Fridays

1:30 p.m. Provider Chapel

Jewish Prayer

Fridays

6:30 p.m. Provider Chapel Annex

Know what this is?



If you can identify the object, send us an e-mail at redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil. Last week's photo of a public announcement speaker was correctly identified by Tech. Sgt. Cylde Lathon, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing.



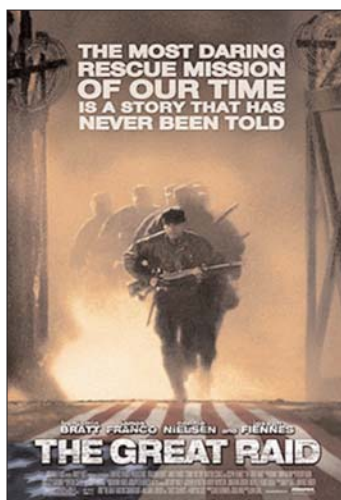
Photo by Staff Sgt. Tammie Moore

Silent Heroes

Master Sgt. Thomas Cook, 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron night-shift NCOIC of vehicle operations, is this week's "Silent Hero." Sergeant Cook was nominated because he took the initiative and time to help keep the Air Force Theater Hospital clean during a mass casualty Sept. 29. His work allowed the nursing staff and medical technicians to devote 100 percent of their energy to patient care.

Sustainer movie schedule

Schedule is subject to change



Today

3 p.m. - Dukes of Hazzard
6 p.m. - Into the Blue (Premiere showing)
9 p.m. - Into the Blue

Saturday, Oct. 15

3 p.m. - Supercross
6 p.m. - The Great Raid
9 p.m. - Into the Blue

Sunday, Oct. 16

3 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo
6 p.m. - Into the Blue
9 p.m. - The Great Raid

Monday, Oct. 17

3 p.m. - Into the Blue
6 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow 2
9 p.m. - Dukes of Hazzard

Tuesday, Oct. 18

3 p.m. - The Great Raid
6 p.m. - Must Love Dogs
9 p.m. - Into the Blue

Wednesday, Oct. 19

3 p.m. - Dukes of Hazzard
6 p.m. - Into the Blue
9 p.m. - Deuce Bigalow 2

Thursday, Oct. 20

3 p.m. - The Great Raid
6 p.m. - Supercross
9 p.m. - Into the Blue

